

Manufacturer encouraged by withdrawal of amendments, moves ahead with production of non-restricted assault-style centerfire semi-automatic weapon

Manufacturer also promotes use of new “10 cross mags”, a device that circumvents 5-round limit for long guns and links together two 10-round magazines

Montréal, March 9, 2023 – Long-time advocates for gun control and for banning assault weapons in particular are decrying the lack of an evergreen definition of assault weapons which would prevent manufacturers from introducing models onto the Canadian market. At least one manufacturer seems bolstered enough by the withdrawal of the amendments **G-4** and **G-46** to **Bill C-21** to move ahead with the production of a non-restricted assault-style semi-automatic weapon, one that would have been prohibited by the proposed amendments (para 100 (g) in **G-46**) as a variant of the **AR-180B rifle**. The model is presently not prohibited because of an arbitrary exemption in the **2020 OICs** which excludes models that are not “present in large volumes in the Canadian market” – which by definition encompasses all new ones. This exemption would have been eliminated by **G-46**.

*“While gun lobby disinformation and parliamentary procedures are dominating the debate surrounding Bill C-21, numerous assault weapons **remain legal and new ones continue to be introduced** to the Canadian market. These not only feature military characteristics, but they also accept large capacity magazines due to major flaws in our regulations. Preventing the next mass shooting should be the focus of our elected representatives right now. Members of the Standing Committee on Public Safety need to work on fixing our laws and regulations in order to ban new and existing new assault weapons as well as large capacity magazines - once and for all,”* says **Nathalie Provost, survivor and spokesperson of PolySeSouvient.**

A recent article in **Calibre Mag** reports that “while sales were no doubt initially dampened by the **Liberal** government's proposed amendments to Bill C-21 (which would have banned Canadian sales), the **Black Creek Labs SRV2 Siberian semi-auto rifle** is in production. Now, with the **Liberals** removing those amendments in early February, presumably more shooters are emboldened to put their money down on one of these made-in-Canada rifles.”



Black Creek Labs is a **Canadian** manufacturer located in **Peterborough (Ontario)**. The company **describes** the **SRV2 Siberian semi-auto rifle** as follows: “It runs a mid-length gas system, based on the **AR-180B design** ... The **SRV2 Siberian** has an **AR-15-style barrel nut**, and of course it will run **AR-15 magazines** ... The rifle comes with a folding Magpul Zhukov stock; available barrel lengths are 12.5 inches, 16.5 inches and 18.5 inches”

(the **Criminal Code** defines non-restricted firearms as those with a barrel length of 470 mm and more - 470 mm = 18.5 inches).

The non-restricted model is currently posted for sale online, with the notice “pre-order” or “out of stock”, while some seem to have already been sold. In [this video](#) from a recent tactical gun show, the manufacturer representative talks about Canadian political context (1:46) and laugh at the fact that this model would be non-restricted (3:45).



Similar to the WK180 which would also have been banned by G-46

The **SRV2 Siberian semi-auto rifle** is very similar to the **WK180-C**, which remains non-restricted and also would have been banned by **G-46** ([para 100 in Schedule II](#)) as it's also considered a variant of the **Armalite AR-180B** rifle.



This is a Canadian model designed and built by **Wolverine** with **Kodiac Defense** and introduced to the market around **2018**. Like the **SRV2**, the **WK180-C** also shares many components with the **AR-15** and the **AR-180B**. It is described by **Wolverine** in a [post to gun owners](#) as follows: “Standard AR15 type magazines are used ... Barrels: We have utilised standard AR15 type barrels using original AR15 barrel nuts ... Trigger unit: We are using a standard AR15 trigger ... The WK180-C lower is a direct replacement for the factory AR-180B polymer lower receiver ... Upper receiver: Most people will recognize the similarity to the AR180 B”.

At the time of its introduction, **Wolverine** wrote that “we are proud to announce the **WK180-C non-restricted rifle**. ... Most people claimed that this would be impossible to achieve but ... we are delighted to say we have achieved.” **AR-180B** features have [been described by gun reviewers](#) as “either directly from the **AR-15** or very similar.”

Since its introduction to the Canadian market, it's been found in at least two instances of criminal activity ([unlawful possession, sawed-off, modified magazines](#)).

Loophole in magazine restrictions

In the video showcasing the **SRV2**, the company representative also says you can use “**10 cross mags**” with the **SRV2**: two ten-round mags connected at the end that one can just flip and keep shooting. These are manufactured by **Cross Industries** and sold in Canada.

Despite the oft-cited rule limiting magazines to 5 rounds for long guns, magazines of over 5-rounds can be legal for long guns due to an **interpretation loophole (pt 4.)** created under the **Harper government** which essentially says that if a magazine is not purposely designed for a specific gun in which it fits, it’s exempted from the limits. According to the popular gun reviewer **Hunting Gear Guy**, “cross Mags are coupled 10/10 pistol LAR mags [pistol magazines] that fit STANAG-compliant firearms [NATO magazine compatible with **AR-15/M16**]... Since these mags are designed for the LAR15 pistol AR, they’re pistol mags and can be 10 rounds each even if you use them in a rifle.”

This is why **PolySeSouvient** is also advocating for the revamping of the **regulations for prohibited devices**, in order to eliminate all **exemptions and loopholes** with respect to the so-called “ban” on large capacity magazines.

“The shortest non-restricted gun available in Canada”

The **Black Creek** representative also comments (2:13) another non-restricted models which has a 9.5 inch barrel and which fold in half. According to him, the **MRX Bronco FSS** (“Folding Safety Stock”) is the “*shortest non-restricted gun available in Canada*”, essentially “*a backpack gun*”. He also says (starting at 3:53) that it feeds from **AR-15** magazines as well as proprietors’ magazines, a “**20-round non-restricted magazines**” as shown in the video for “the perfect package”. Because it’s a bolt-action rifle, it’s exempted from any limit – yet another loophole in the rules for **magazine restrictions** (“*magazines designed to contain centre-fire cartridges ... for use in a rifle other than a semi-automatic ... rifle do not have a regulated capacity.*”)



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Information:

info@polysesouvient.ca ; 514-816-7818